Archie ADVENTURE SERIES

NO.1 APRIL | $1.50

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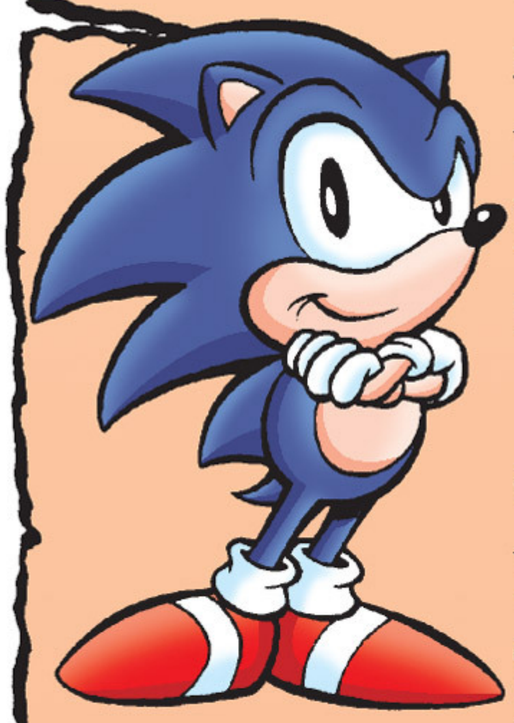
#1 OF 3 ISSUE MINI-SERIES

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG PRESENTS: PRINCESS Sally™

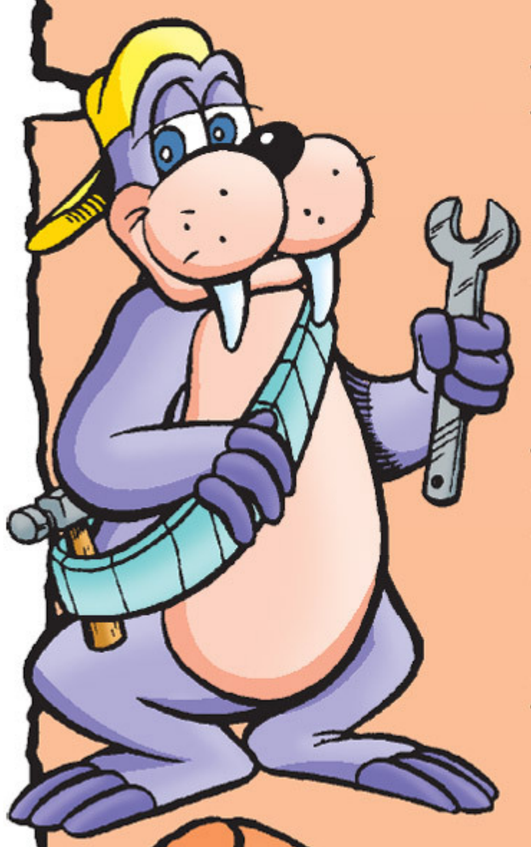
MAWHINNEY & D'AGOSTINO

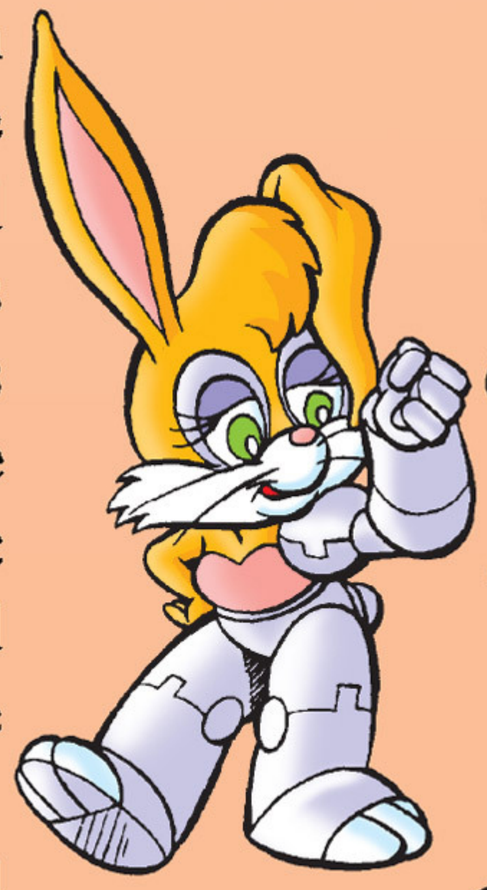
Not long ago, the planet **Mobius** was a world of great beauty and joy. Guided by the benevolent **King Acorn**, all seemed like a paradise. That is, it **was**, until the evil **Doctor Ivo Robotnik** rose up against the inhabitants of the great city of **Mobotropolis**, conquering the land and its people.

In the aftermath of the devastation created by Robotnik and his mechanical army of **Swatbots**, he subjected the citizens to a process whereby they were remade into **mechanical slaves**, toiling over the polluted lands on the now rechristened **Robotropolis**. As for the king, to this day, no one can be certain of his fate.



But where there is great loss, there is often found great hope. Among the youngest of the citizenry were its most courageous. Banding together as a group of **Freedom Fighters**, they struggle to one day regain what was once theirs.





Among the greatest of the Freedom Fighters is **Sonic The Hedgehog**, the swiftest of them all, assisted by his loyal friend **Tails**. **Rotor** serves as the group's **inventor** and **chief engineer**. **Antoine** is renowned for his **military skills**. **Bunnie Rabbot** makes great use of her **robotic limbs**. Led by the courageous and resourceful **Princess Sally**, they form the spearhead of the **Rebel Alliance**.

As Robotnik's forces grow in size and strength, Princess Sally knows the Freedom Fighters must do the same. And so, she begins to recruit the next generation of Freedom Fighters.... ✠

FROM THE JOURNALS OF PRINCESS SALLY ACORN...

AT THE TIME, IT SEEMED A SIMPLE ENOUGH ASSIGNMENT... INFILTRATE ONE OF ROBOTNIK'S KEY ENERGY SUBSTATIONS...

ROBOTROPOLIS ENERGY SUBSTATION #837

... AND DESTROY IT!

DESTRUCT SEQUENCE ENGAGED

FRANKLY... I EXPECTED RESISTANCE...

...BUT WHAT I DIDN'T EXPECT WAS TO RUN AFOUL OF AN UTTERLY CHARMING ROGUE NAMED **GEOFFREY ST. JOHN!**

ST. JOHN CLAIMED TO BE LEADER OF SOME UNSEEN FACTION OF THE REBEL UNDERGROUND... AND A FORMER MEMBER OF MY FATHER'S SECRET SERVICE...*

* EARLIER IN THIS GRAPHIC NOVEL! --*Editor*

...I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO BELIEVE!

READY
AIM
FIRE

PRINCESS Sally™

"DEADLIEST OF THE SPECIES"

PART 1

SWATBOTS!!

GET DOWN NOW!

B-TAM!

ERADICATE THE OPPOSITION!

TERMINATE WITH EXTREME PREJUDICE!

LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED!

B-TAM!

SCRIPT: MIKE KANTEROVICH & KEN PENDERS PENCILS: ART MAWHINNEY
INKS: RICH KOSLOWSKI LETTERS: BILL YOSHIDA COLORS: BARRY GROSSMAN
EDITOR: SCOTT FULOP MANAGING EDITOR: VICTOR GORELICK
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: RICHARD GOLDWATER
SPECIAL THANKS TO JENNIFER HUNN, CYNTHIA WILKES & BOB HARRIS OF SEGA

WALKIN' TIN CANS DON'T LOOK NONE TOO *FRIENDLY*, LUV!

SO I *NOTICED*, MISTER ST. JOHN!

TWANG! TWANG!

K-CHOK!

K-CHAK!

F-WHAP

F-WHAP!

K-CHUNK

K-CHUNK

NOT TOO SHABBY! THINK YOU CAN PICK UP THE *PACE* A LITTLE?

I *COULD*...

...IF I WASN'T PLUM OUT OF *BOLTS*!

OUT OF *BOLTS*? SOME BOY SCOUT YOU TURNED OUT TO BE!

WHAT KIND OF FREEDOM FIGHTER ARE YOU, ANYWAY?

ONE WHO FLIES BY THE SEAT OF HIS PANTS, LUV!

HRRUMPH! YOU REMIND ME OF SOMEONE ELSE I KNOW!

WHOOOSH!

FORTUNATELY...

...I CAME PREPARED!!

THUMP!

KRA-KOOMM!

THERE! THAT HOMEMADE GRENADE SHOULD GIVE THOSE SWATBOTS SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT!

POLIS
RGY
TION
37

I'LL SAY THIS MUCH FOR YA, LUV...

YOU'VE GOT *STYLE!*

SAVE THE COMPLIMENTS FOR *LATER*, MR. ST. JOHN...

"... *AT LEAST UNTIL AFTER WE'VE LINKED UP WITH THE REST OF MY UNIT!*"

THE PRINCESS SURE IS TAKING HER OWN SWEET TIME! MAYBE SHE RAN INTO SOMETHING SHE COULDN'T HANDLE!

THERE'S NOTHING *SHE* CAN'T HANDLE, HAMLIN-- SHE'S A *TRAINED PROFESSIONAL!*

I JUST WISH WE COULD HAVE GONE *WITH* HER!

YOU SAID IT YOURSELF, *ARLO*-- SHE'S A *PROFESSIONAL!* WE'RE ONLY *TRAINEES!*

BUT HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO LEARN ANYTHING BY WATCHING AND WAITING?

PATIENCE IS A *VIRTUE*, PENELOPE...

... AND *FOLLOWING ORDERS* IS THE MOST *IMPORTANT* LESSON ANY WOULD-BE *FREEDOM FIGHTER* CAN LEARN!

IF SHE SAYS "WAIT," WE *WAIT* UNTIL...

KRACKT!

SHHH!

WHAT WAS THAT?

HOLEEEE !!

OOOOFF!

CRASH!

BASH!

SMASH!

KER-WHUUMMP!

OOW!

Y' GOT THREE SECONDS T' *EXPLAIN* Y'SELF, MATE...

...OR YOU'LL BE ONE SORRY SLAB OF *BACON!*

(GULP!)

THAT'S *ENOUGH!*

GET OFF OF HIM, GEOFFREY! THEY'RE WITH ME! WE'RE ALL ON THE *SAME SIDE*, AFTER ALL!

SORRY, MATE!

JUST GOT A BIT *CARRIED AWAY!*

OH, YOU'LL BE "CARRIED AWAY" ALL RIGHT...

...ONCE I'M FINISHED WITH YOU!

YOU AN' WHAT *NAVY*, YOU SLOBBERIN' SACK OF...

YOU WON'T RAISE SUCH A *STINK* AFTER...

COOL IT! BOTH OF YOU!!

SAVE SOME FOR *DR. ROBOTNIK!* THERE'S PLENTY OF *HIM* TO GO AROUND!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION, THIS IS *GEOFFREY ST. JOHN*, THE LEADER OF THE *LOCAL* BRANCH OF THE *REBEL* UNDERGROUND! HE'LL BE *JOINING* US ON OUR MISSION!

PLEASURE T' MEET YOU!

AND THESE FRESH YOUNG FACES ARE THE *NEXT GENERATION* OF *FREEDOM FIGHTERS*... ARLO, PENELOPE AND DYLAN!

HAMLIN, I BELIEVE, YOU'VE *ALREADY* MET!

HRMMPHH!

NOW, LET'S ALL GET SOME SHUT-EYE! WE HAVE A FULL DAY AHEAD OF US TOMORROW...

...AND I WANT TO FILL GEOFFREY IN ON OUR PLAN!

THE PRINCESS MAY BUY YOUR " HERO" ACT, PRETTY BOY...

BUT I *DON'T!*

WELL, AIN'T THAT TOO BLEEDIN' *BAD!*

COMES THE DAWN...

GOOD MORNING, PEOPLE! NICE TO SEE YOU ALL UP AND ABOUT FOR OUR BRIEFING!

AS YOU KNOW, *ROTOR*, THE FREEDOM FIGHTER'S RESIDENT *SCIENTIST*, HAS THEORIZED THAT BY KNOCKING OUT CERTAIN *ENERGY SUBSTATIONS*...

...THE *DEFENSE SYSTEM* THAT PROTECTS ROBOTROPOLIS AGAINST *GROUND ATTACKS* WOULD AUTOMATICALLY *COLLAPSE*!

HAVING SPLIT THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS' FORCES INTO SEVERAL TEAMS...

...IT REMAINS *THIS* TEAM'S DUTY TO SHUT DOWN THESE *THREE* STATIONS!

WE'VE ALREADY TAKEN OUT THE FIRST ONE--

-- AND TODAY WE PROCEED TO THE SECOND!

ANY QUESTIONS?

YEAH!

WHY IS *HE* TAGGING ALONG FOR THE RIDE?

GEOFFREY IS A FORMER MEMBER OF KING ACORN'S *SECRET SERVICE*, HAMLIN! HE KNOWS HOW TO GET INTO AND OUT OF TIGHT SPOTS! THAT LEVEL OF *SKILL* COULD BE PRICELESS ON A MISSION *THIS IMPORTANT!*

WATCH HIM...

...AND MAYBE YOU'LL LEARN SOMETHING!

YOU HEARD THE LADY, PAL! KEEP THOSE PEEPERS PEELED!

OH, I *INTEND* TO, PAL!

I INTEND TO!

ANY OTHER QUESTIONS?

NO?

GOOD!

THEN PREPARE TO MOVE OUT!

OUR NEXT TARGET IS LOCATED DUE *NORTH*...

"... AT THE EDGE OF THE GREAT FOREST!"

THERE IT IS!

SSSLAASH!

WOW! LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THAT PLACE!

IT'S REALLY BIG!

I DON'T SEE ANY GUARDS!

IT'S THE THINGS YOU DON'T SEE THAT ARE THE MOST DANGEROUS, DYLAN!

WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT PAST WITHOUT BEING DETECTED!

EITHER WAY, WE'LL HAVE TO CHANCE IT!

FOLLOW ME! WE'LL SLIP AROUND THE BACK, BEFORE...

FHWOOM! FHWOOM!

FWA-VOOOOSH!

INCOMING!

THEY'VE SPOTTED US!

I GUESS THE SNEAKY APPROACH WON'T WORK!

LET'S TRY THE DIRECT APPROACH!

FHWOOM!

FHWOOM!

K-CHAKT!

SWOOSH!

KA-BOOM!

MUCH BETTER!

COVER ME WHILE I CRACK THE LOCK ON THIS ACCESS PANEL!

KLIKT

SWIIISH!

TYPICAL!

THE SWATBOTS ALWAYS GO TO PIECES IN A CRISIS!

LET'S HOPE THE SAME CAN BE SAID...

TAPPETY-TAP TAP-TAP-TAP

K-CHUKT!

...FOR THE ENTIRE BUILDING!

THERE!

THAT VIRUS I'VE FED INTO THE SECURITY SYSTEM SHOULD GIVE THE SELF-DESTRUCT MECHANISM SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT UNTIL WE...

THOOMP!

DID YOU HEAR THAT?

WH-WHATEVER IT IS, IT'S GETTING *CLOSER!*

ANY IDEA WHAT IT COULD *BE?*

I DON'T KNOW, PENELOPE!

I...

DON'T...

...KNOW...

THOOMP! THOOMP! THOOMP!

FWA-VOOM! FWA-VOOM!

ORB-BOTS!

FWA-VOOM
FWA-VOOM!
FWA-VOOM!

BLEEDIN' EYEBALLS MEAN *BUSINESS!*

GOT ANY MORE *GRENADES?*

SORRY!

THAT WAS MY *LAST ONE!*

FWA-VOOM!

FWA-VOOM!

SOME GIRL SCOUT *YOU* TURNED OUT TO BE!

WHAT NOW?

NOW -- WE TAKE A PAGE OUT OF *YOUR* BOOK, GEOFFREY...

RRRIIIPP!

SWIIIISH!!

...WE IMPROVISE!

SHRIIPT!

EVERYBODY, SCATTER!

TUG

WITH ANY LUCK...

...THIS WIRE SHOULD KEEP IT FROM PUTTING ITS BEST FOOT FORWARD!

TRIP!

UH, OH!

NO WORRIES, MATE!

LEAVE IT TO OL' GEOFFREY TO PULL YOUR FAT OUT OF THE FIRE!

PHEW!

KERASH!

THAT ONE'S *DOWN* FOR THE *COUNT!*

AND SPEAKING OF COUNTDOWNS...

THOOMP! THOOMP!

... HOW MUCH *TIME* DO WE HAVE LEFT BEFORE THE *BASE BLOWS* SKY HIGH?

NOT NEARLY ENOUGH!

THEN I VOTE THAT DISCRETION IS THE BETTER PART OF VALOR, LUV!

OR IN MORE COMMON TERMS...

...LET'S *BEAT FEET!*

THOOMP!

THOOMP!

THROOOM!

KA-ROOOM!

FWA-VOOM!

FWA-VOOM!

FVA-VOOM!

FWA-VOOM!

SKA-FEE

KER-RAAASSH!

TSK! TSK!

LOOKS LIKE *FALL* CAME A LITTLE BIT *EARLY* THIS YEAR!

WHEW

THAT WAS *TOO* CLOSE FOR *COMFORT!* ROBOTNIK MUST HAVE BEEFED UP HIS *SECURITY DETAILS!*

I AGREE, PRINCESS!

WE'LL NEED TO TAKE EXTRA PRECAUTIONS NEXT TIME!

YOU CAN NEVER BE *TOO CAREFUL* ABOUT WHERE YOU STEP--OR WHO YOU *TRUST!*

CAN'T SAY I MUCH CARE FOR YOUR *TONE,* PIG FOOT!

WELL, *I* DON'T MUCH CARE FOR YOUR *FACE,* STRIPES!

SO I GUESS THAT MAKES US EVEN!

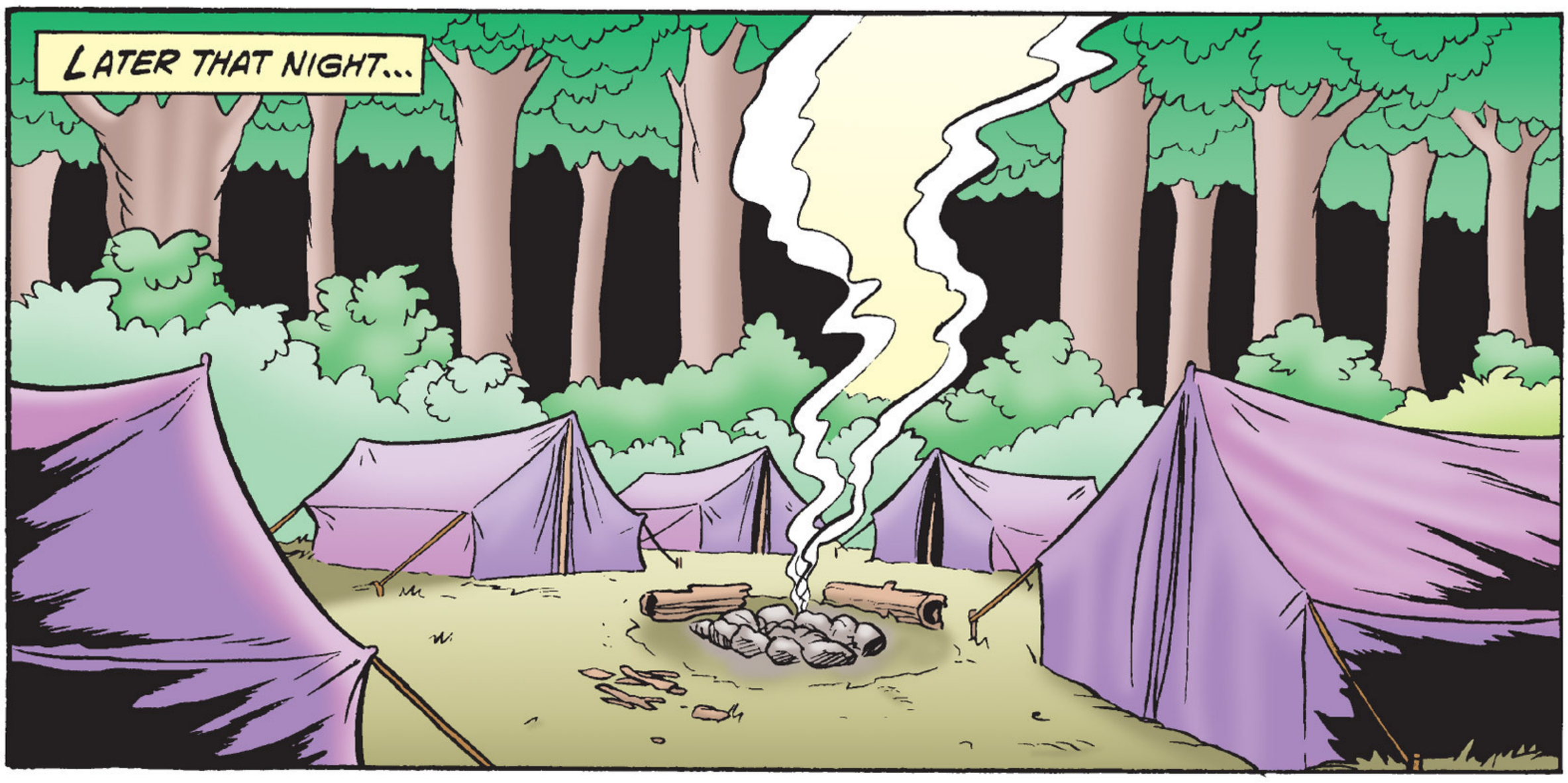
KNOCK IT OFF, HAMLIN!

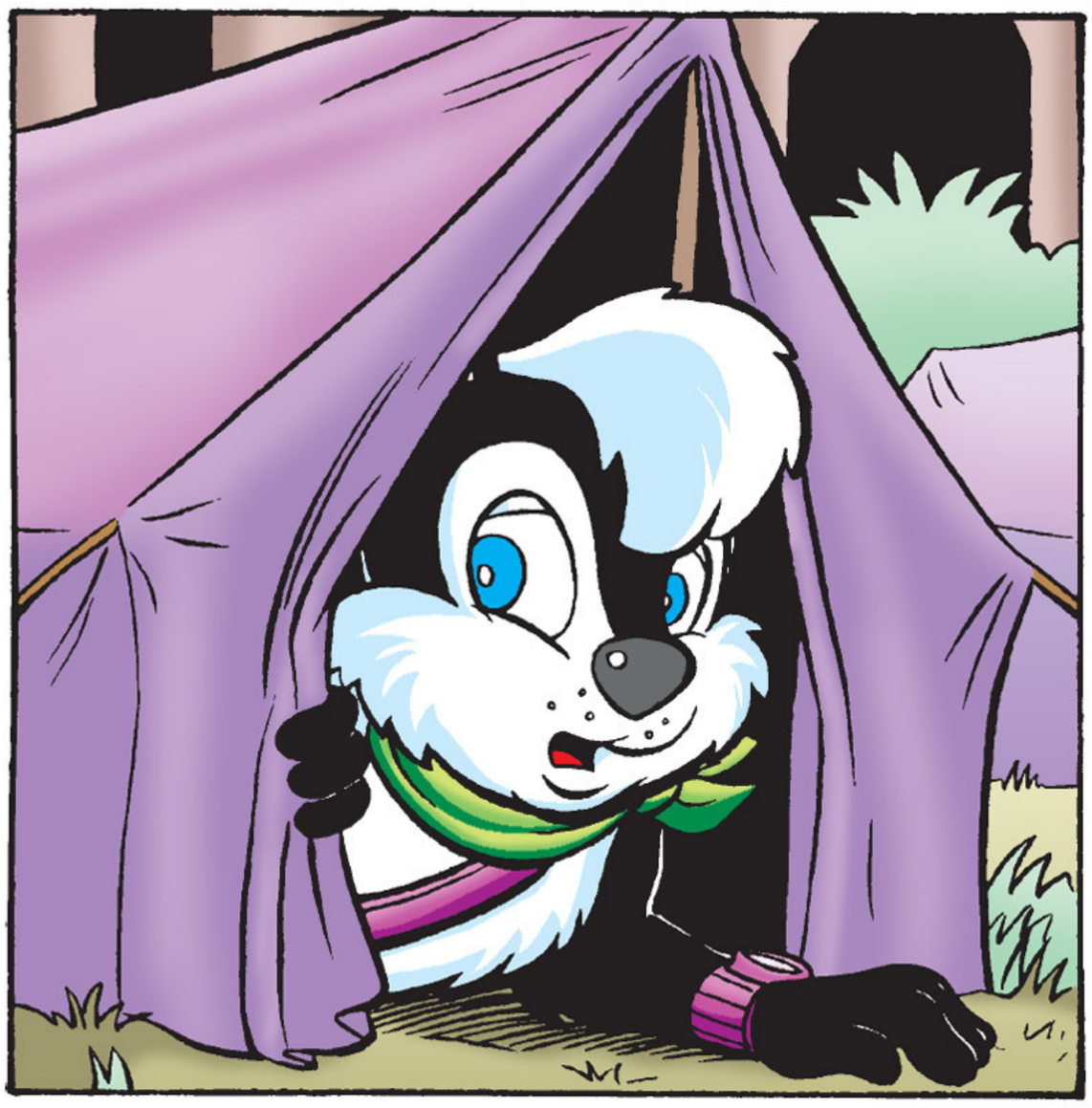
GEOFFREY SAVED YOUR LIFE, REMEMBER?

YOU SHOULD BE *GRATEFUL*--NOT *SUSPICIOUS!*

IF YOU CAN'T TRUST HIM AFTER *THAT*--

--YOU MIGHT AS WELL NOT TRUST *ME,* EITHER!


LATER THAT NIGHT...



TAP
TAP

ZUUUMMM

WWRRR

KLICKT!

SHWIISH!

TAP
TAP

SOON, M' LUV...

SOON!

TAP TAP TAP

NEXT

TURN THE PAGE, THE MYSTERY DEEPENS!

SONIC™ THE HEDGEHOG'S TEAMMATE, PRINCESS SALLY STARRING IN HER OWN ACTION-PACKED MINI-SERIES!

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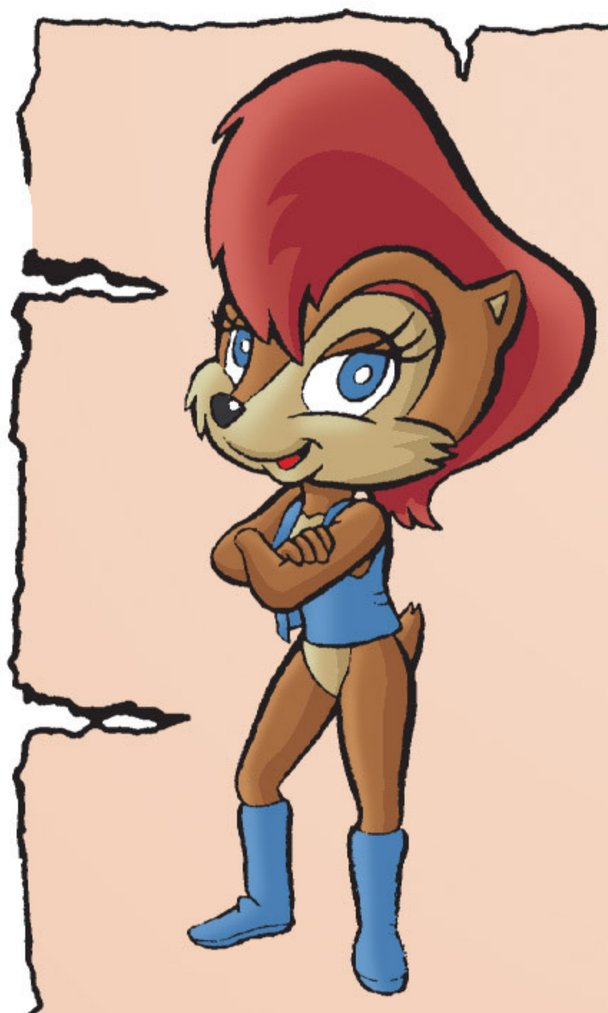
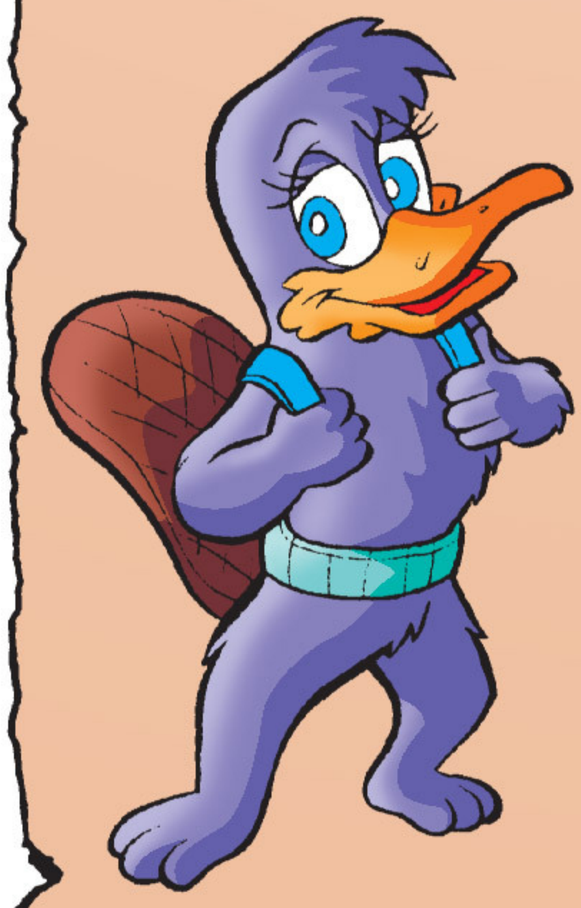
#2 OF 3 ISSUE MINI-SERIES

SONIC™ THE HEDGEHOG PRESENTS:

PRINCESS Sally™

MAWHINNEY & D'AGOSTINO





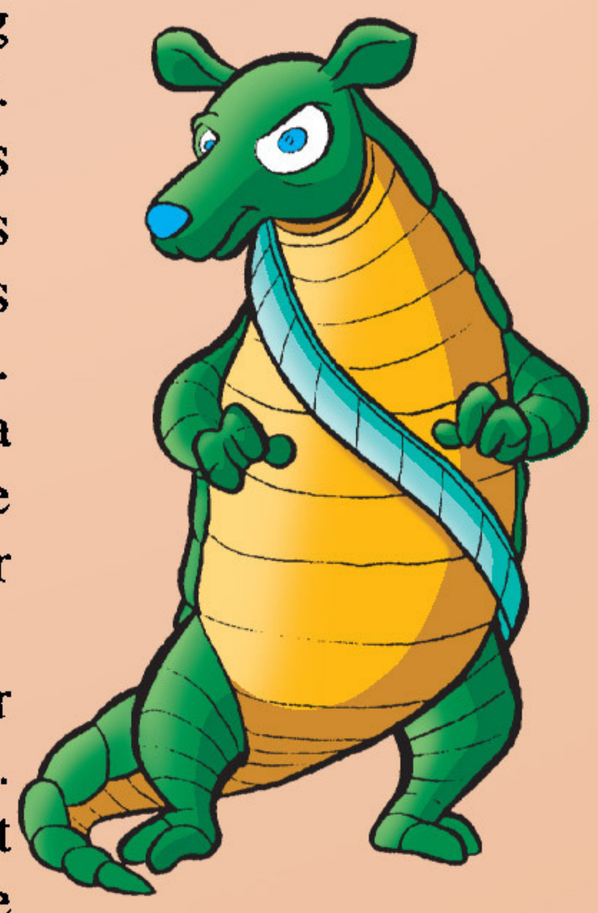
As the fight for freedom rages on, it has been one of **Princess Sally's** many obligations to select and recruit the soldiers of tomorrow, training them for the important tasks that lie ahead.

Gathering only the best and brightest young hopefuls from the citizenry of **Knothole Village**, the Princess has assembled a core team of four members whose main purpose is to be the second vanguard in the struggle to overthrow the evil genius **Dr. Ivo Robotnik**.

Foremost of the group is **Hamlin**. Quick to anger, slow to forgive, he is often the first to leap into action, but usually the last to look where he's going. Next is **Penelope**. Fiercely loyal to her friends and comrades, her love for all animal kind is the driving force in her personal fight against tyranny. **Arlo**, cheerful and courageous, will always put the needs of his teammates ahead of his own, regardless of whatever personal costs it might entail. Finally, there is **Dylan**. With the heart of a warrior and soul of a poet, he never mistakes the forest for the trees and functions as the spiritual anchor for his colleagues.

Together, there is no challenge, dare or risk these adventurers will not accept. Embracing the philosophy that "It won't get done until we get it done," they strive each and every day to live up to that ideal, working toward restoring **Mobotropolis** to the paradise it once was.

Untested and untried, they now embark upon a mission which shall change their lives **forever**... ✠



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG'S TEAMMATE,

PRINCESS SALLY

LEADS A BAND OF FREEDOM FIGHTING CADETS WHILE FACING AN UNSEEN FOE...

FROM THE JOURNALS OF PRINCESS SALLY ACORN...

THINGS HAVE CERTAINLY BEEN--INTERESTING--SINCE I LINKED UP WITH FORMER SECRET SERVICE AGENT AND REBEL UNDERGROUND LEADER GEOFFREY ST. JOHN!

MY SQUAD OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS--ARLO, PENELOPE, DYLAN AND ESPECIALLY HAMLIN--TOOK AN IMMEDIATE AND PROFOUND DISLIKE TO HIM...

...WHICH, TO THEIR CREDIT, DID LITTLE TO INTERFERE WITH THE ASSIGNMENT:

TARGET THREE OF ROBOTNIK'S STRATEGIC ENERGY SUBSTATIONS...

...AND DESTROY THEM!

THROOOOMM!

TWO DOWN, ONE TO GO!

THROUGHOUT, ST. JOHN PERFORMED FAULTLESSLY, AND PROVED HIS COURAGE BEYOND ANY SHADOW OF A DOUBT!

STILL...

...ONE COULDN'T HELP BUT WONDER...

...WHAT OTHER TRICKS HE MIGHT HAVE HIDDEN UP HIS SLEEVE!

PRINCESS Sally™

"DEADLIEST OF THE SPECIES"

PART 2

YOU WANT A *PIECE* OF ME, *PORKFACE*?

WELL, MATE, TAKE YOUR *BEST SHOT!*

KLAKT!

THIS IS ALL SO *CHILDISH*, ARLO! SOMEONE COULD GET *HURT!*

I DON'T THINK *EITHER* ONE OF THEM IS PAYING ANY *ATTENTION* TO US, PENELOPE!

THEY'RE *TOO* BUSY TRYING TO BEAT EACH OTHER'S *BRAINS* IN!

HAMLIN CRAVED *COMBAT TRAINING*--HOPEFULLY HE'LL *LEARN* FROM THE EXPERIENCE...

SCRIPT: MIKE KANTEROVICH & KEN PENDERS
PENCILS: ART MAWHINNEY INKS: RICH KOSLOWSKI
LETTERS: MINDY EISMAN COLORS: BARRY GROSSMAN
EDITOR: SCOTT FULOP MANAGING EDITOR: VICTOR GORELICK
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: RICHARD GOLDWATER

...THOUGH NOT NECESSARILY WHAT HE *EXPECTS!*

WHOOMPH!

BETTER BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU *WISH* FOR, STRIPES...

...'CAUSE YOU JUST MIGHT *GET* IT!

KRAKT!

I *ALREADY* "GET IT," MATE...

...YOU'RE *TICKED OFF* 'CAUSE I SHOWED YOU UP IN FRONT OF THE *PRINCESS!*

KLAKT!

SORRY TO *DISAPPOINT* YOU...

...BUT IN *OUR* LINE OF WORK, YOU EITHER "STAY ON YOUR TOES..."

THOOOMP!

...OR YOU GET KNOCKED OFF YOUR *FEET*--OR *HOOVES* IN THIS CASE!

THWOK!

HAMLIN!

PHUPT!

KRAK!

WHUMMP!

LET'S GET ONE THING STRAIGHT, GEOFFREY--

--SO LONG AS YOU'RE PART OF MY UNIT, YOU'LL PLAY BY MY RULES!

WE FIGHT TOGETHER, AS A TEAM AGAINST ROBOTNIK...

...NOT AGAINST EACH OTHER!

IS THAT UNDERSTOOD?

SORRY, LUV...

...DON'T KNOW WHAT I COULD HAVE BEEN THINKING!

LATER...

SINCE WE'VE ALREADY TAKEN OUT THE FIRST TWO SUBSTATIONS, THAT LEAVES ONLY THE *THIRD!*

UNFORTUNATELY...

...IT'S ARMED LIKE A FORTRESS!

LOCATED INSIDE THIS *ATOLL**, THE SURROUNDING WATERS MAKE IT ALL BUT IMPREGNABLE TO *CONVENTIONAL* MEANS OF *ATTACK!*

**A RINGLIKE ISLAND THAT ENCLOSES A LAGOON-Ed.*

THEN-- WHAT CAN WE *DO?*

WE CAN START THINKING *UNCONVENTIONALLY*, PENELOPE!

FOR EVERY *PROBLEM*, THERE'S A *SOLUTION...*

...AND I KNOW JUST THE THING! PACK YOUR GEAR, AND GET READY TO *MOVE OUT!*

BUT WHERE ARE WE *GOING?*

TO THE TOP OF THOSE *CLIFFS*, OVERLOOKING THE ATOLL!

IF GEOGRAPHY CAN BE USED *AGAINST* US...

"...I'M BETTING IT CAN ALSO BE MADE TO WORK IN OUR FAVOR!"

ARE WE THERE YET?

OH, BE QUIET!

COMPANY-- HALT!

THIS IS AS FAR AS OUR FEET WILL CARRY US...

...SO I GUESS IT'S TIME TO BREAK OUT THE SPECIAL EQUIPMENT!

WHAT ARE THESE THINGS?

A NEW TYPE OF NON-POWERED STEALTH AIRCRAFT THAT ROTOR DESIGNED!

I BELIEVE HE CALLED THEM-- HANG-GLIDERS...

...THOUGH WHY, I COULD SCARCELY BEGIN TO IMAGINE!

REGARDLESS, IF WE CAN'T APPROACH ROBOTNIK'S BASE BY *LAND* OR *SEA*...

...WE'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE USE OF THE FREEDOM OF THE *SKIES!*

KCHUKT!

WHRRRRR

UH-OH...

KWOOOM!

...WE'RE ABOUT TO LOSE THAT *FREEDOM*, PRINCESS!

EVERYONE!! --TAKE *EVASIVE ACTION*, BEFORE...

I'M HIT!!

PHWOOM!

FWOOOOOSSH!!

CAN'T-- CONTROL--

ARLO!

PULL UP, BEFORE YOU...

KER-RAAASHH!

QUICK! *DITCH* THE GLIDERS, THEN FOLLOW ME INTO THE *UNDERBRUSH!*

BUT ARLO--!

ROBOTNIK'S FORCES ALREADY KNOW WE'RE *HERE*, HAMLIN!

IF THEY *CAPTURE* US, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO *DOUBLE BACK* AND *SEARCH* FOR ARLO!

THIS WAY!
I THINK I'VE *SPOTTED* SOMETHING!
OH MAN...
NOBODY COULD'VE WALKED AWAY FROM *THAT!*
I DIDN'T!
THERE HE IS!
ARE YOU *ALRIGHT?*
IT-- ONLY HURTS--WHEN I *MOVE*, PRINCESS!
YOU'RE LUCKY TO FEEL *ANYTHING*, PAL! THAT *GLIDER'S* NOT GOING ANYWHERE ANYTIME SOON...
...AND NEITHER ARE *YOU*, WITH THAT *BROKEN* LEG!
MAYBE I SHOULD STAY BEHIND WITH HIM!
GOOD *IDEA*, PENELOPE!
IF ALL GOES WELL, WE SHOULD BE BACK *SHORTLY!*
AND IF *NOT*...
WELL...
I UNDERSTAND.

FUNNY...

... I HAVE THE STRANGEST FEELING WE'RE BEING *WATCHED!*

PROBABLY JUST A CASE OF THE JITTERS, GEOFFREY--

OR COLD FEET!

MAYBE *SO*, LUV!

BUT *STILL*...

SHHH!

OUR *OBJECTIVE* IS IN SIGHT...

...BUT WE'RE NOT OUT OF THE *WOODS* YET!

WHRRRRRK!

KLIK!

TWHOK!

PLACE ISN'T MUCH TO *LOOK* AT, *IS* IT?

APPEARANCES CAN BE *QUITE DECEIVING*, GEOFFREY...

...AS *YOU* SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN MOST!

NOW-- JUST LIKE WE *REHEARSED!*

SPREAD OUT...

...AND AFFIX *YOUR EXPLOSIVES* TO THE CONTROL PANELS!

WE NEED TO GET IN AND OUT OF HERE *FAST*, BEFORE WE RUN INTO ANY MORE...

...TROUBLE!

SHOOOOOMP!

HOLEEE--!

AN OCTO-POD!

AND FROM THE LOOK OF THINGS...

"...IT'S SET ITS SIGHTS ON PRINCESS SALLY!"

WELL, WE CAN'T HAVE THAT, NOW CAN WE?

THE OCTO-POD CAN LOOK...

...BUT HE BETTER NOT TOUCH!

WON'T TAKE "NO" FOR AN *ANSWER*, EH?

SPREAD OUT! DISTRACT IT...

RRRRRRRRRK

KLIKT!

ARMED

...WHILE I GIVE THIS BLOKE A PIECE OF MY *MIND!*

HEY!!!!

THRUUPT!

THRUUPT!

WHOA!

NOW THAT'S DOWNRIGHT *UNNEIGHBORLY* OF YOU, MATE...

...I'D *ALMOST* THINK YOU DIDN'T WANT TO BE *FRIENDS!*

K-CHUKT!

HERE! HAVE ONE ON ME!

SO MUCH FOR *MANNERS!* THE THING'S ALL *ARMS!*

AND SPEAKING OF "*ARMED*"...

THAT'S THE *LAST* OF THE *CHARGES!*

K-CHUNKT!

BETTER SHAKE A LEG, LUV!

IT'S NOT MY *LEG* THAT NEEDS *SHAKING*...

...IT'S THIS CAN OF *PAINT!*

FSSSST

HERE!

HAVE AN EYEFUL OF *RED DYE NUMBER 2!*

SKA-REEEEEEEE

FWOOOOSH!

HURRY!!

RUN FOR COVER!

THOSE *EXPLOSIVES* ON THE *OCTO-POD* ARE SET TO GO OFF AT ANY...

BA-WHROOOOOM!

WASN'T THAT CUTTING THINGS A LITTLE *CLOSE*, GEOFFREY?

NOT *REALLY*, LUV...

"...THE OTHER BOMBS ARE ON A *FIVE SECOND DELAY!*"

KRAKHOOOOM!

WHEW

ALL PRESENT AND *ACCOUNTED* FOR?

I... *THINK* SO, PRINCESS!

GOOD.

THEN LET'S HEAD BACK TO WHERE WE LEFT ARLO AND...

...PENELOPE?

THEY'RE GONE!!

ODD, NO SIGN OF A *STRUGGLE!*

THEIR TRACKS MERELY *STOP*--AS THOUGH THEY *VANISHED* INTO *THIN AIR!*

BUT HOW IS THAT *POSSIBLE?*

IT *ISN'T* DYLAN...

...WHICH IS ALL THE MORE REASON TO GET *AWAY* FROM HERE-- *FAST!*

LEAVE-- *WITHOUT* THEM?!

WITH ALL DUE *RESPECT*, PRINCESS... HAVE YOU GONE *BONKERS?!*

HAMLIN, BE *REASONABLE!*

EITHER THEY LEFT UNDER THEIR OWN POWER...

...OR THEY *DIDN'T!*

IN ANY EVENT, HANGING AROUND WON'T DO US ANY GOOD!

LET'S GO!

IF WE'RE *LUCKY...*

...THEY'LL BE *WAITING* FOR US BACK AT *CAMP!*

TWO HOURS-- AND STILL NO SIGN OF THEM!

WHERE ON MOBIUS COULD THEY *BE?*

I DON'T *KNOW,* GEOFFREY!

I JUST DON'T KNOW!

SHORTLY BEFORE DAWN...

ZZUUUMMMMMM

WHRR

HLIKT!

ST. JOHN TO CENTRAL COMMAND! ARE YOU RECEIVING ME?

AFFIRMATIVE. COMMENCE DEBRIEFING.

OPERATION: INFILTRATION IS A TOTAL SUCCESS!

I'VE EARNED THEIR TRUST...

...AND THE EXCHANGE HAS BEEN MADE!

EXCELLENT!

DELIVER THE GOODS AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE.

YOU HAVE DONE WELL, MY DOUBLE AGENT...

...AND OUR CAUSE SHALL REAP THE FULL BENEFITS OF YOUR TREACHERY.

CENTRAL COMMAND OUT!

FSSSSSSSS

KLICT!

REPORT, MISTER ST. JOHN!

EVERYTHING WENT EXACTLY ACCORDING TO PLAN!

TRUST ME...

"... NO ONE SUSPECTS A THING!"

MORNING...

ROBOTROPOLIS
CITY LIMITS
TRESPASSERS
IST VERBOTEN

SKREE- FOOM

FRA-ZAATT!

IF ROTOR'S CALCULATIONS ARE *CORRECT*, THE DESTRUCTION OF THOSE THREE SUBSTATIONS SHOULD HAVE COLLAPSED THE CITY'S *DEFENSE SYSTEM* AT THESE CO-ORDINATES!

ROBOTNIK WOULD *NEVER* EXPECT A DARING DAYLIGHT *RAID ON ROBOTROPOLIS!*

ANY FINAL *QUESTIONS* BEFORE WE *PROCEED?*

YEAH!

WHAT HAPPENED TO *GEOFFREY?*

I WOULDN'T WORRY TOO MUCH ABOUT *HIM*, HAMLIN!

IF I KNOW MISTER ST. JOHN...

"...HE'S PROBABLY TAKING CARE OF A FEW LAST MINUTE DETAILS!"

THE *MERCHANDISE*, YOUR LORDSHIP...

...AS *PROMISED!*

SWIIIISH!!

SPLENDID!

YOU ARE INDEED A MAN OF YOUR *WORD*, ST. JOHN!

I ADMIRE THAT IN A *TRAITOR!*

WITH MY PRINCESS SALLY *ROBOT DUPLICATE* IN PLACE, THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS CAN'T HELP BUT BE LED INTO MY *TRAP!*

AND *THEN...*

...ONCE THE TRUE PRINCESS SALLY HAS BEEN *ROBOTICIZED...*

...THE REBELLION WILL *FALL...*

...BEFORE THE MASTER PLAN OF

DOCTOR IVO ROBOTNIK!

HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA

NEXT: WHAT'S GOING ON? WHAT HAPPENED TO **ARLO** AND **PENELOPE**? WHOSE SIDE IS GEOFFREY ST. JOHN ON? WHAT'S DR. ROBOTNIK'S EVIL PLAN? THE ANSWERS TO ALL THESE QUESTIONS AND MORE CAN BE FOUND IN THE AWESOME CONCLUSION!

...THOUGH NOT NECESSARILY WHAT HE *EXPECTS!*

WHOOMPH!

BETTER BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU *WISH* FOR, STRIPES...

...'CAUSE YOU JUST MIGHT *GET* IT!

KRAKT!

I *ALREADY* "GET IT," MATE...

...YOU'RE *TICKED OFF* 'CAUSE I SHOWED YOU UP IN FRONT OF THE *PRINCESS!*

KLAKT!

SORRY TO *DISAPPOINT* YOU...

...BUT IN *OUR* LINE OF WORK, YOU EITHER "STAY ON YOUR TOES..."

THOOOMP!

...OR YOU GET KNOCKED OFF YOUR *FEET*--OR *HOOVES* IN THIS CASE!

THWOK!

HAMLIN!

PHUPT!

KRAK!

WHUMMP!

LET'S GET ONE THING STRAIGHT, GEOFFREY--

--SO LONG AS YOU'RE PART OF MY UNIT, YOU'LL PLAY BY MY RULES!

WE FIGHT TOGETHER, AS A TEAM AGAINST ROBOTNIK...

...NOT AGAINST EACH OTHER!

IS THAT UNDERSTOOD?

SORRY, LUV...

...DON'T KNOW WHAT I COULD HAVE BEEN THINKING!

LATER...

SINCE WE'VE ALREADY TAKEN OUT THE FIRST TWO SUBSTATIONS, THAT LEAVES ONLY THE *THIRD!*

UNFORTUNATELY...

...IT'S ARMED LIKE A FORTRESS!

LOCATED INSIDE THIS *ATOLL**, THE SURROUNDING WATERS MAKE IT ALL BUT IMPREGNABLE TO *CONVENTIONAL* MEANS OF *ATTACK!*

**A RINGLIKE ISLAND THAT ENCLOSES A LAGOON-Ed.*

THEN-- WHAT CAN WE *DO?*

WE CAN START THINKING *UNCONVENTIONALLY*, PENELOPE!

FOR EVERY *PROBLEM*, THERE'S A *SOLUTION...*

...AND I KNOW JUST THE THING! PACK YOUR GEAR, AND GET READY TO *MOVE OUT!*

BUT WHERE ARE WE *GOING?*

TO THE TOP OF THOSE *CLIFFS*, OVERLOOKING THE ATOLL!

IF GEOGRAPHY CAN BE USED *AGAINST* US...

"...I'M BETTING IT CAN ALSO BE MADE TO WORK IN OUR FAVOR!"

ARE WE THERE YET?

OH, BE QUIET!

COMPANY-- HALT!

THIS IS AS FAR AS OUR FEET WILL CARRY US...

...SO I GUESS IT'S TIME TO BREAK OUT THE SPECIAL EQUIPMENT!

WHAT ARE THESE THINGS?

A NEW TYPE OF NON-POWERED STEALTH AIRCRAFT THAT ROTOR DESIGNED!

I BELIEVE HE CALLED THEM-- HANG-GLIDERS...

...THOUGH WHY, I COULD SCARCELY BEGIN TO IMAGINE!

REGARDLESS, IF WE CAN'T APPROACH ROBOTNIK'S BASE BY *LAND* OR *SEA*...

...WE'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE USE OF THE FREEDOM OF THE *SKIES!*

KCHUKT!

WHRRRRR

UH-OH...

KWOOOM!

...WE'RE ABOUT TO LOSE THAT *FREEDOM*, PRINCESS!

EVERYONE!! --TAKE *EVASIVE ACTION*, BEFORE...

Archie ADVENTURE SERIES
NO.3 JUN
$1.50

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

#3 OF 3 ISSUE MINI-SERIES

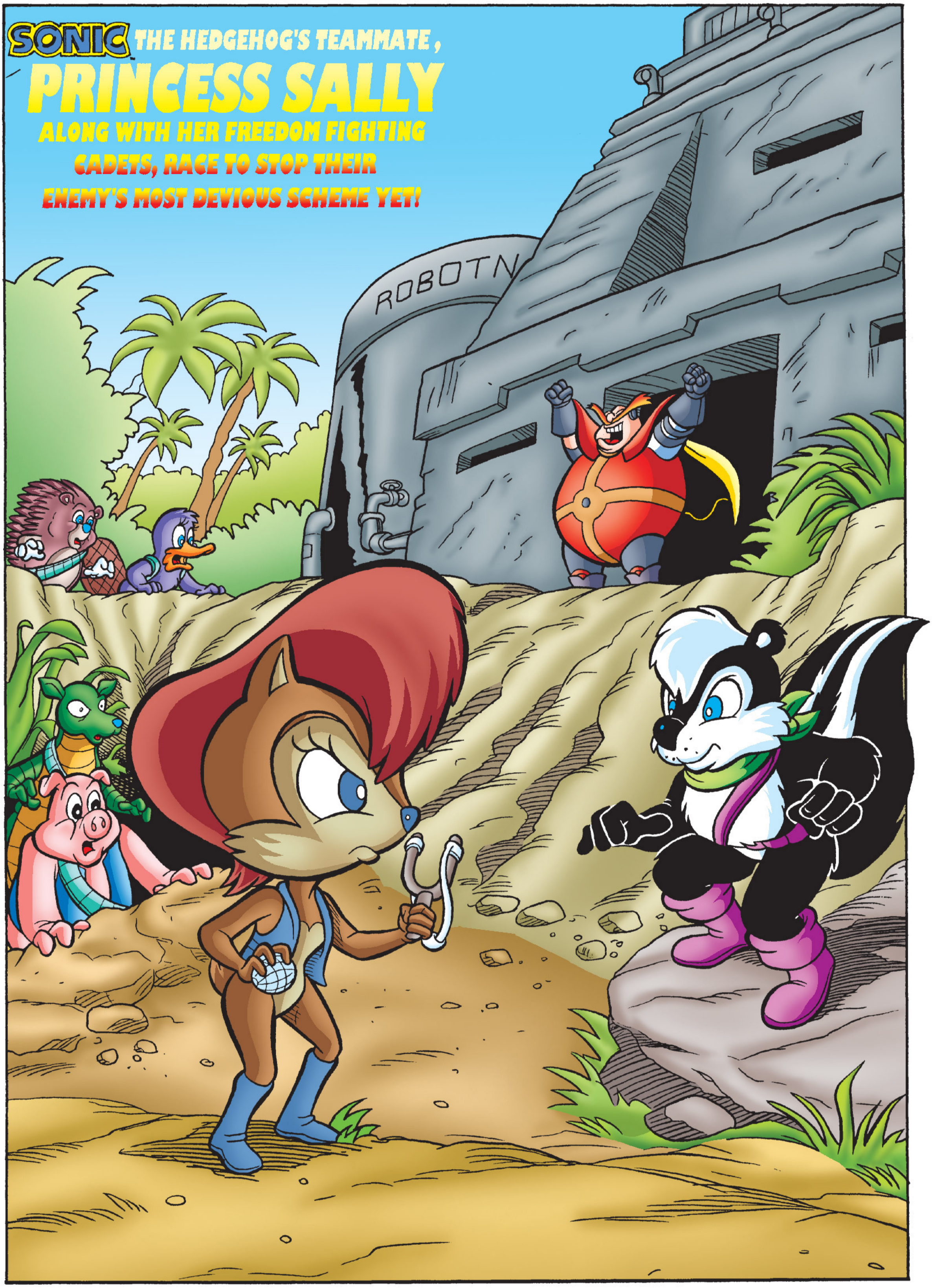
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG PRESENTS: PRINCESS Sally™

MAWHINNEY & D'AGOSTINO

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG'S TEAMMATE,

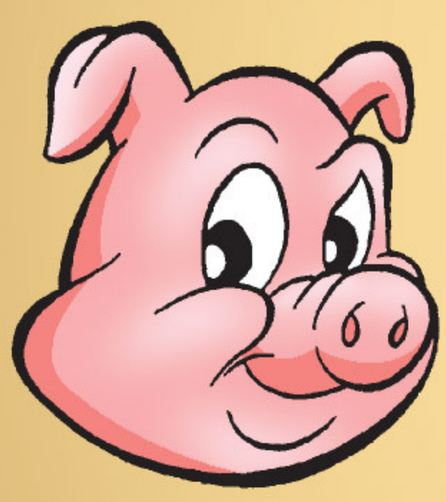
PRINCESS SALLY

ALONG WITH HER FREEDOM FIGHTING CADETS, RACE TO STOP THEIR ENEMY'S MOST DEVIOUS SCHEME YET!



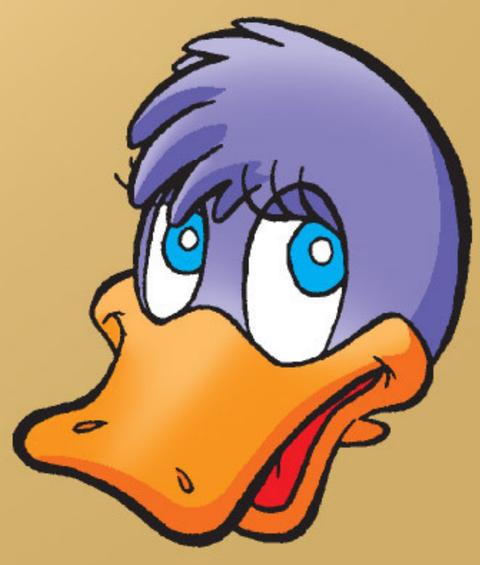
One of the many outstanding qualities **Princess Sally** reveals in her capacity as **Commander-in-Chief** of the **Freedom Fighters** and spearhead of the resistance movement against evil tyrant **Dr. Ivo Robotnik**, is swift, sure **judgement.** The combination of this attribute with her ability to take **decisive action** regardless of personal cost, contributes to the Freedom Fighters' success as a team.

While her troops play out their appointed roles, only Sally sees the **big picture**: to lead effectively, she must retain their trust and respect, for in a war there is no room for hesitation. When she gives an order, it is to be carried out -- no questions asked, no answers given! Their loyalty must remain absolute at all times, or the cause is already lost.



Entrusted with the lives of her charges, the young Princess wears the mantle of leadership stoically. Often called upon to make tough choices by virtue of her rank, she longs for the day when peace and prosperity once again reign over the planet **Mobius**.

But until that day, she will fight to free her people.



And they will fight, courageously, by her side. . .

FROM THE JOURNALS OF PRINCESS SALLY ACORN...

THE ASSAULT ON ROBOTNIK'S FACILITIES WENT, MORE OR LESS, AS EXPECTED! DYLAN, HAMLIN AND ST. JOHN PLAYED OUT THEIR ROLES IN THIS AFFAIR...

...WITH EXPLOSIVE RESULTS!

THE LAST OF THE TARGETED ENERGY SUBSTATIONS HAD BEEN DESTROYED...

KRA-KHOOM!

...THOUGH NOT WITHOUT COST!

ARLO HAD BEEN INJURED UPON ARRIVAL, AND, ALTHOUGH PENELOPE REMAINED BEHIND TO PROTECT HIM, WHEN THE RAIDING PARTY RETURNED...

...THEY WERE GONE!

THE OTHERS WERE RIGHTLY CONCERNED...

...BUT THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE MISSION STILL LAY AHEAD!

WITH ROBOTROPOLIS' DEFENSE SYSTEM COMPROMISED, WE PREPARED TO STRIKE!

ST. JOHN HAD WANDERED OFF -- PRESUMABLY TO SCOUT THE TERRAIN AHEAD!

AFTER ALL...

PRINCESS Sally™

"DEADLIEST OF THE SPECIES"

CONCLUSION!

...IT WAS ANYONE'S GUESS WHAT AWAITED US WITHIN!

OH, PUT A SOCKET IN IT, YOU RUSTY OLD BUCKET OF BOLTS!

WE GAVE AT THE OFFICE!

SAVE YOUR BREATH, HAMLIN--

--AND CONCENTRATE ON STAYING ALIVE!

CHUUM CHUUM CHUUM

PROFOUND ADVICE, PRINCESS--

--WHICH WE WOULD ALL DO WELL TO FOLLOW!

SPA-LOOSH!

SPLORCH!

INTRUDER-ALERT! INTRUDER-ALERT!

UNAUTHORIZED-ACCESS-HAS-BEEN-ACHIEVED-IN-SECTOR-76!

--TERMINATE-WITH-EXTREME-PREJUDICE!

REPEAT:-TERMINATE-WITH-

SCRIPT: MIKE KANTEROVICH & KEN PENDERS
PENCILS: ART MAWHINNEY INKS: RICH KOSLOWSKI
LETTERS: MINDY EISMAN COLORS: BARRY GROSSMAN
EDITOR: SCOTT FULOP
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THEY'RE RETURNING OUR FIRE!

THIS WAY! DUCK AND COVER!

ZAP

WHILE I RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR SPEED, PRINCESS--

--PERHAPS STAGING THIS ASSAULT WITH OUR UNIT AT HALF-STRENGTH WAS A LESS-THAN-INSPIRED COMMAND DECISION.

AND WITHOUT GEOFFREY...

ZAP

GEOFFREY? HAH! THE ORIGINAL "MR. USELESS"--AND A COWARD BESIDES.

JUST LIKE THE GUY TO CUT OUT ON US WHEN THE GOING GETS ROUGH.

WHO NEEDS HIM?

WE DO, HAMLIN!

ST. JOHN SAVED YOUR LIFE, REMEMBER?*

YEAH, SURE--

* EARLIER IN THIS VOLUME -- EDITOR

--BUT WHAT'S HE DONE FOR US LATEL-EEE-

HAMLIN!

YEOW!

CHUUM

K-TANG!

NOOO

--OUT OF THE LINE OF FIRE!

ZIP!

CHUUM

WHEW!

IF THERE'S ONE CONSTANT IN THIS LIFE--

--IT'S THAT WE CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON YOU, PRINCESS!

SAVE THE COMPLIMENTS FOR LATER!

WE HAVE A JOB TO DO!

AND--

--ACCORDING TO THESE ENERGY READOUTS--

--OUR OBJECTIVE IS BEHIND DOOR NUMBER ONE!

THEN WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?

OR, TO EXERCISE THE COMMON SPEECH--

WAH-HOOO!

KER-BOOM!

FOURTEEN MINUTES, ELEVEN SECONDS.

UNACCEPTABLE!

YOU'VE KEPT US *WAITING*, FREEDOM FIGHTERS--

--AND *TARDINESS* IS A SIN I FIND *MOST* DIFFICULT TO *FORGIVE!*

STILL, YOU ARE *HERE* NOW, AND *THAT*, IN THE END, IS ALL THAT *MATTERS!*

DID I *FORGET* MYSELF--*INTRODUCTIONS* ARE IN ORDER!

I, OF COURSE, AM *DOCTOR IVO ROBOTNIK!*

AND MY *ASSOCIATE*, I BELIEVE, IS ALREADY *KNOWN* TO YOU.

G'DAY, MATES.

WELCOME TO THE *PARTY.*

GEOFFREY--AND DR. ROBOTNIK--TOGETHER?!
THAT MEANS--
YOU TRAITOR!!
YOU SET US UP!
BRIGHT BOY! FIGURED IT OUT ALL BY Y' *LONESOME*, EH?
I'M *IMPRESSED.*
NOT AS "IMPRESSED" AS YOU'RE *GONNA* BE, PAL--
--ONCE I'M FINISHED *POUNDING* YOU INTO THE *PAVEMENT!*
THAT'S *ENOUGH!*
GET *OFF* HIM, HAMLIN, BEFORE YOU GET A FACE FULL OF *PAINT*-- FOR STARTERS! WE'RE *BOTH* ON THE *SAME SIDE*, AFTER ALL!
PRINCESS?!
WHAT ARE YOU *TALKING* ABOUT?

ISN'T IT *OBVIOUS*, GENTLEMEN?

THE "PRINCESS" WHO STANDS *BEFORE* YOU IS NOT THE *TRUE* SALLY AT ALL--BUT AN *INCREDIBLE ROBO DUPLICATE!*

YOU SEE, THERE WAS *NO* WEAKNESS IN THE ROBOTROPOLIS DEFENSE SYSTEM--

--INDEED, THERE NEVER *HAS* BEEN!

DEFENSE SYSTE

ROBOTROPOLIS

--INTACT--

THE ENTIRE "ENERGY SUBSTATION" SCHEME WAS MERELY A *FIELD-TEST* FOR MY *LATEST, MOST AMBITIOUS* CREATION--

--THE *AUTO-AUTOMATON!* A PERFECT ROBOT DUPLICATE OF A LIVING BEING--IN *EVERY WAY!*

MAGNIFICENT, ISN'T SHE? ONLY HER *CREATOR* KNOWS FOR SURE!

AND NOW THAT THIS *FIRST MODEL* HAS PROVEN *SUCCESSFUL,* I SHALL BEGIN REPLACING THE KEY MEMBERS OF YOUR RESISTANCE MOVEMENT!

AS FOR THE *GENUINE ARTICLE*--

--DELIVERED TO ME BY YOUR "ASSOCIATE"--REBEL UNDERGROUND LEADER *GEOFFREY ST. JOHN*--

K-CHUNG!

--I FEAR HER-- *USEFULNESS* -- HAS COME TO AN *END.*

ROBOT ROBOTIC-IZATION ENGAGED

ZZUUUMMMMMM

F-ZATT!

KRAZZ!

ZNARKLE!

WHA--?

KA-BOOM!

THIS -- IS IMPOSSIBLE!

SSSSSS

THE P-PRINCESS --

NO...

A *FEEDBACK LOOP* OF SUFFICIENT MAGNITUDE TO *DISABLE* MY *ROBOTICIZATION UNIT* COULD *NOT* HAVE OCCURRED--

UNLESS...

--UNLESS THE SUBJECT WAS *ALREADY* A *ROBOT.*

PRINCESS SALLY?!

"THE GENUINE ARTICLE."

WE'VE BEEN WISE TO YOUR GAME FROM THE *BEGINNING,* ROBOTNIK.

NOW COME ALONG *QUIETLY...*

...OR MAKE MY DAY!

I THINK NOT!

ALTHOUGH I FAIL TO SEE HOW YOU SAW THROUGH MY LITTLE CHARADE--

K-CHUNG!

K-CHAKT

K-CHUKT!

--I NEVER PLAY WITHOUT A BRILLIANT BACK-UP PLAN!

STEALTH 'BOTS! CRAWLING OUT OF THE WOODWORK!

WE'RE SURROUNDED!!

HAHAHAHA! BID FAREWELL TO YOUR FREE-DOM, FREEDOM FIGHTERS!

HAVING DISCOVERED MY "PLAN" YOU MAY HAVE WON THE *BATTLE*--

--BUT THE *WAR* WILL YET BE *MINE!*

KLIKT!

EH?

THE *FLOOR*--

NOW WHAT?!

RRRUMBBLE!

Y' SAID *Y'SELF* I WAS *LEADER* OF THE *REBEL UNDERGROUND*, DOC--

--AND *HERE* THEY COME!

THROOOOM!

DIG IN, MEN!
SECURE THE PERIMETER--
--AND FREE THOSE P.O.W.S!
ARLO! PENELOPE!
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!
THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING!
BELIEVE IT, DOC!
IT'S AS REAL AS IT GETS!
WHUMP!
HAI!!!
LT. SMILEY! COMMANDER FLEMING! GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT!
GEOFFREY?
WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON?
OURS, OF COURSE!
BUT EXPLANATIONS WILL HAVE TO WAIT, UNTIL--
--UNTIL ETERNITY, PRINCESS! ST. JOHN MAY HAVE DECEIVED ME--

--BUT BETRAYAL--

--IS A DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD!

SELF-DESTRUCT ACTIVATED

BEEP-BEEP-BEEP

HAVE A NICE LIFE, MY FRIENDS--

SCHOOMP!

00:30 00:29 00:28

--WHAT'S LEFT OF IT!

HAHAHAHA

THE PLACE IS SET TO BLOW!

WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE--

00:27 00:26 00:25 00:24 00:23

UH-OH!

THERE GOES OUR TICKET HOME!

ANY BRIGHT IDEAS, PRINCESS?

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

ONLY ONE, ST. JOHN--

00:22 00:21 00:20 00:19 00:18

00:17 00:16 00:15 00:14 00:13

THAT WE'D BETTER SEEK *ALTERNATIVE* TRANSPORTATION, *FAST!!*

THOOM THOOM THOOM

TAKE THEM OUT!

HANGER 18

SRA-LOOSH!

KR-KL

FRAZZ

00:12 00:11 00:10 00:09 00:08

EVERYBODY, GRAB AN *AIR CAR*--

-- AND *DON'T* SPARE THE *HORSEPOWER!*

VZZUUUM!

LAUNCH CORRIDOR - C-57D

VROOOM!

C-57D

00:07 00:06 00:05 00:04 00:03

SHOOOM!!

00:02 00:01

00:00...

KRA-KOOOM!

SO MUCH FOR ROBOTNIK'S *ROBOT DUPLICATE PRODUCTION PLANT!*

HE WON'T BE MAKING ANY *MORE* OF ME--OR OF ANY-ONE *ELSE*--ANYTIME SOON!

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

COULD YOU *BACK UP* AND RUN THAT BY ME *AGAIN*, PRINCESS?

I DON'T *UNDERSTAND!*

NOT *SURPRISING*, HAMLIN! I WAS *IN* ON THE PLAN--

--AND I *BARELY* UNDERSTOOD IT *MYSELF!*

BUT *FIRST*--

--ONE *FINAL* BIT OF *BUSINESS!*

IN RECOGNITION OF THE EXTRAORDINARY *VALOR* YOU DISPLAYED IN THE FACE OF OVERWHELMING ODDS--

--I HEREBY AWARD YOU THESE *BATTLEFIELD COMMISSIONS!*

FROM THIS MOMENT ON, YOU ARE FULL-FLEDGED *FREEDOM FIGHTERS*, WITH ALL THE *PRIVILEGES* AND *DUTIES* THE RANK *ENTAILS!*

CONGRATULATIONS!

WOW!

CLAP! CLAP! CLAP!

THAT NIGHT--

SORRY I COULDN'T TELL YOU THE *FULL* STORY SOONER, BUT SECRECY WAS *CRITICAL!*

YOUR REACTIONS TO EVENTS HAD TO BE *AUTHENTIC*--

--OR ROBOTNIK MIGHT HAVE SUSPECTED OUR *PLAN!*

ROBOTNIK HAD CUT A DEAL WITH *ST. JOHN* TO *SWAP* ME FOR THAT *ROBOT DUPLICATE!*

"--BUT ST. JOHN'S *TRUE* LOYALTIES LAY WITH *KING* AND *COUNTRY!*"

"HE WAS A *DOUBLE AGENT* ALL ALONG!"

"AFTER GAINING MY *TRUST* BY REVEALING WHAT *HE* KNEW OF ROBOTNIK'S *MASTER PLAN*, WE TOOK STEPS TO THROW A *MONKEY WRENCH* INTO IT--

"--BY ACTIVATING THE ROBOT DUPLICATE *PREMATURELY!*"

"WITH MY ROBOT DUPLICATE GIVEN FREE REIGN TO FULFILL ITS PROGRAMMING, ST. JOHN WAS ABLE TO UNCOVER THE NUTS AND BOLTS OF ROBOTNIK'S SCHEME --"

--INCLUDING THE ATTACKS ON THE NEXT TWO ENERGY SUBSTATIONS, WHICH WERE CLEVER DECOYS DEVISED TO TEST THE LEADERSHIP SKILLS OF HIS CREATION!"

AND, JUST IN CASE ROBOTNIK HAD ANY OTHER SURPRISES IN STORE FOR US, WE HAD A SAFETY NET--

NAMELY, THE REBEL UNDERGROUND.

THAT'S HOW WE "DISAPPEARED" OFF THE ISLAND!

SHORTLY AFTER YOU LEFT--

"-- THEY ARRIVED ON THE SCENE!"

"THEN, AFTER SETTING MY BROKEN LEG --

"--WE LITERALLY DROPPED OUT OF SIGHT!

BY *THAT* POINT, I'D *LEARNED* WHAT WE NEEDED TO *KNOW!*

NEXT CAME THE *TRICKY* PART.

"I HAULED THE MECHANICAL SALLY BACK THROUGH THE FOREST--

"--AND SWAPPED HER FOR THE PRINCESS IN FULL MONITOR VIEW OF DOCTOR ROBOTNIK!"

"SO FAR AS THE DOC WAS CONCERNED, THIS WAS THE FIRST -- AND ONLY-- SWITCHEROO --

"--WHICH LEFT US FREE TO PLOT OUR NEXT MOVE!"

THAT *PARTICULAR* EXCHANGE CORRESPONDED WITH SUBTLE *DIFFER-ENCES* I NOTED, BUT FAILED TO *HEED!*

THE *ROBOT* ALWAYS REFERRED TO GEOFFREY BY HIS *GIVEN* NAME, WHILE THE *REAL* PRINCESS REFERRED TO HIM AS "*MR. ST. JOHN*".

"*THE ROBOT ALSO WORE A DIFFERENT COLORED VEST!*"*

IT'S **TRUE! CHECK PREVIOUS PAGES - EDITOR*

"*WITH THOSE EXCEPTIONS, THE MECHANICAL SALLY BEHAVED IN AN ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE MANNER!*"

"*SHE GAVE ORDERS--MADE HARD CHOICES--EVEN **GRIEVED**--JUST LIKE THE **REAL THING**!*"

I *KNOW*, DYLAN!

IF ST. JOHN HADN'T TIPPED US OFF--

--ROBOTNIK'S *PLAN* WOULD HAVE *SUCCEEDED!*

THE ROBOT DUPLICATE WAS *FLAWLESS!* BUT NOW, WE PLANTED A SEED OF *DOUBT* IN ROBOTNIK'S MIND!

HE THINKS WE SAW *THROUGH* HIS PLAN, THANKS TO ST. JOHN!

FOR *ALL* OF OUR SAKES--

--WE MUST PRAY HE NEVER DISCOVERS THE *ULTIMATE* TRUTH!

THE NEXT MORNING...

I *REALLY* WISH YOU'D RECONSIDER YOUR *DECISION*, MISTER ST. JOHN!

COME BACK TO *KNOTHOLE VILLAGE* WITH US. THERE'S ALWAYS A *NEED* FOR SOMEONE OF *YOUR* CALIBRE.

I *KNOW*, LUV. BUT THE *REBEL UNDERGROUND* NEEDS ME, TOO--

-- AND I CAN DO MY BIT FOR THE CAUSE *HERE*, BY HELPING WAGE THEIR *GUERILLA WAR* AGAINST ROBOTNIK'S *TYRANNY!*

I UNDER-STAND.

WILL-- WILL I EVER *SEE* YOU AGAIN?

PERHAPS, M'LUV! WHEN THE *WAR* IS *OVER!*

OH, AND BY THE WAY--

SMACK!

YOU CAN CALL ME *GEOFFREY!*

WE LEFT FOR KNOTHOLE VILLAGE SOON THEREAFTER, THOUGH ROBOTNIK HAD NOT BEEN VANQUISHED. HE HAD BEEN DETERRED, WHICH MEANT MY OBLIGATIONS AS A FREEDOM FIGHTER TOOK PRECEDENCE OVER MORE PERSONAL CONCERNS.

AND WHAT OF MY HEART? WHERE ONCE THERE WAS ONE--

NOW THERE ARE TWO.